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MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

2020 CERTIFICATION**Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)****THE OAKS UTILITIES**

Public Water System Name

0240256

List PWS ID #s for all Community Water Systems included in this CCR

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires each Community Public Water System (PWS) to develop and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to its customers each year. Depending on the population served by the PWS, this CCR must be mailed or delivered to the customers, published in a newspaper of local circulation, or provided to the customers upon request. Make sure you follow the proper procedures when distributing the CCR.

CCR DISTRIBUTION (Check all boxes that apply.)

INDIRECT DELIVERY METHODS (Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)	DATE ISSUED
<input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement in local paper (Attach copy of advertisement)	
<input type="checkbox"/> On water bills (Attach copy of bill)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Email message (Email the message to the address below)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
DIRECT DELIVERY METHOD (Attach copy of publication, water bill or other)	DATE ISSUED
<input type="checkbox"/> Distributed via U. S. Postal Mail	
<input type="checkbox"/> Distributed via E-Mail as a URL (Provide Direct URL): _____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Distributed via E-Mail as an attachment	6-14-21
<input type="checkbox"/> Distributed via E-Mail as text within the body of email message	
<input type="checkbox"/> Published in local newspaper (attach copy of published CCR or proof of publication)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Posted in public places (attach list of locations)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Posted online at the following address (Provide Direct URL): _____	

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the CCR has been distributed to the customers of this public water system in the form and manner identified above and that I used distribution methods allowed by the SDWA. I further certify that the information included in this CCR is true and correct and is consistent with the water quality monitoring data provided to the PWS officials by the MSDH, Bureau of Public Water Supply.

Michael Centrali
Name

Operator
Title

6-10-21
Date

SUBMISSION OPTIONS (Select one method ONLY)

You must email, fax (not preferred), or mail a copy of the CCR and Certification to the MSDH.

Mail: (U.S. Postal Service)
MSDH, Bureau of Public Water Supply
P.O. Box 1700
Jackson, MS 39215

Email: water.reports@msdh.ms.gov

Fax: (601) 576-7800

(NOT PREFERRED)

CCR DEADLINE TO MSDH & CUSTOMERS: BY JULY 1, 2021

2020 Drinking Water Quality Report The Oaks Utilities PWS 0240256

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our water comes from the Graham Ferry Aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability

The source water assessment report is compiled by the MS Department of Environmental Quality and ranks our water as moderate for susceptibility to contamination. This report is available at the Lowery Development office.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small

amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

For any questions about your drinking water supply, please contact Kim Byrd at 228-860-7812.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill dangerous bacteria and microorganisms that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Significant Deficiencies

During a sanitary survey conducted on 8/26/2016, the Mississippi State Department of Health cited the following significant deficiencies:

INADEQUATE CLEANING/MAINTENANCE OF STORAGE TANKS

INADEQUATE FOLLOW UP ON PREVIOUS SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES

Corrective Actions: This system is under a consent agreement that is directly related to the outcome of a Public Service Commission ruling. MSDH anticipates a ruling will be in place by 12/31/2021

Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Oaks Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the

concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1.6	1.4	1.8	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	19	NA	NA	2018	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	14.2	NA	NA	2018	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	.9	NA	NA	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.0127	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	1.2	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.449	NA	NA	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	.5	NA	NA	2015	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.1	2016	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Additional Contaminants

In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulations. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water.

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
Sodium	250000 ppb	98000 ppb	No	Likely source of contamination: erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

TT Violation	Explanation	Length	Health Effects Language	Explanation and Comment
Ground Water Rule violations			Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.	

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Jim Lowry
Address: 1811 26th Ave.
Gulfport, MS 39501
Phone: 228-861-8883